

## CHAMPIONS OF STEM CELL RESEARCH: CALIFORNIA'S MODERN MEDICI

The Medici of Florence, Italy of the 1650s and the 1660s protected and financially supported an empirically based Scientific Renaissance from religious suppression that lead to the creation of the Hand Book of Empirical Science from the Accademia Del Cimento and the birth of the Royal Academy of London in 1660 and the Royal Academy of Paris in 1661: the expansion of the Scientific Renaissance.

California's modern Medici of stem cell research are the great philanthropic patron families who committed resources at vital moments and, through their support, have led the stem cell revolution. These visionaries include the following, all of whom provided major support for the world-class discovery platforms embodied in CIRM's Major Facilities Program.

ELI AND EDYTHE BROAD	RAY AND DAGMAR DOLBY	EDWARD AND VIVIAN THROP	KAT TAYLOR AND TOM STEYER
LORRY LOKEY	T. DENNY SANFORD	THE KECK FAMILY TRUST	
LI KA SHING	WILLIAM AND SUE GROSS	REGINA AND JOHN SCULLY	

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Their leadership followed the courageous intervention of the philanthropic individuals and foundations that bought CIRM bonds despite the overhang of litigation, which could have nullified the bond obligations; those champions included:

JOHN AND ANN DOERR	ELI AND EDYTHE BROAD	THE DAVID AND LUCILLE
RICHARD BLUM	GORDON AND BETTY MOORE	PACKARD FOUNDATION
WILLIAM BOWES	HENRY SAMUELI	STEWART AND LINDA RESNICK
JOHN MOORES	STEVEN AND MARY SWIG	HERB AND MARION SANDLER
J. TAYLOR CRANDALL	IRWIN AND JOAN JACOBS	GERSON BAKAR FAMILY

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All of the great people and families listed above built their contributions upon the visionary commitments of the individual donors to the Proposition 71 campaign.

This extraordinary group of California's modern Medici empowered the people of California, first giving them the opportunity to vote their vision and then leading the effort to raise \$1 billion in matching funds to carry out the commitments of Proposition 71. Without their vision, their commitment and their courage, Proposition 71 would have faltered, broken by political misrepresentations and litigation—all of which was designed to block the mandate of 7 million California voters. Without the decisive endorsements and financial backing of all of these modern day heroes, the stem cell revolution would have stopped, a broken vision of the potential to empower the understanding of chronic disease and injury. The world would have missed an historic opportunity to reduce human suffering.